

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
Re Patent Application of)
CHRISTOPHER TOWNSEND)
Serial No.:)
Filed:)
For: HITCH DEVICE HOLDING ASSEMBLY)
Examiner:)
Group Art Unit:)
Attorney: Ivar M. Kaardal)
Deposit Account No. 11-0020)

Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

This statement is filed under the provisions of Rule 1.56 and the detailing of Rules 1.97 and 1.98.

With regards to the above-identified application, the items of information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are brought to the attention of the Examiner.

This statement should be considered because it is submitted before the mailing date of a first Office Action on-the-merits. Accordingly, no fee is due for consideration of the items listed on the enclosed Form 1449.


In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2), a copy of each document or other information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 is provided.

No representation is made that a reference is "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§102 and 103 and Applicants reserve the right, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or otherwise, to establish that the reference(s) are not "prior art." Moreover, Applicants do not represent that a reference has been thoroughly reviewed or that any relevance of any portion of a reference is intended.



Consideration of the items listed is respectfully requested.
Pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P. 609, it is requested that the Examiner return a copy of the attached Form 1449, marked as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.

Respectfully submitted,

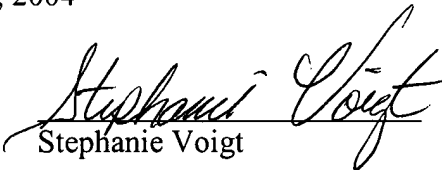


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Date: February 18, 2004

Certificate of Mailing

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with proper postage as First Class mail in an envelope addressed to the Mail Stop, Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on this 18th day of February, 2004


Stephanie Voigt

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT

February 18, 2004

Application Number:

Filing Date:

First Named Inventor: **CHRISTOPHER TOWNSEND**

Group Art Unit:

Examiner Name:

Attorney Docket Number: **23-0543**

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No.	U.S. Patent Document Number of Cited Documents	Name of Patentee or Applicant Cited Documents	Date of Publication of Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Figures
	1	6,070,441	Bernstrom	June 06, 2000
	2	5,682,998	Mccoy et al.	November 04, 1997
	3	5,497,927	Peterson	March 12, 1996

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No.	U.S. Patent Document Office Number	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Documents	Date of Publication of Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Cited Documents Relevant Passages or Figures
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NONE

OTHER PRIOR ART – NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Include name of the author, title of the article, title of the item, date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.
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NONE

Examiner Signature: _____ Date Considered: _____